

ENERGY-EFFICIENT LIGHTING – TRUE or FALSE

Energy-efficient light bulbs lack variety

FALSE. Stores today have a wide variety of bulbs available in all shapes, sizes, wattages and colors.

Compact fluorescents produce an inferior light when compared with an incandescent

FALSE. Thanks to the great variety of energy-efficient bulbs now available, there many compact fluorescents (CFL) marked “soft white” that provide the same brightness, in the same color, as incandescent bulbs.

CFLs don’t work on dimmer switches

FALSE. There are CFLs that work with dimmer switches. For example, the GE Longlife Plus Soft White Energy Saving Bulb. Phillips also makes a dimmable that works with recessed lighting.

CFLs don’t work with motion sensors

FALSE. In the past fluorescent bulbs did pose a problem when used in conjunction with motion sensors because they took some time to reach full intensity. However, for several years CFLs have existed that work flawlessly with motion sensors. The recent generation of CFLs come on instantly.

Energy-efficient light bulbs last up to 10 times longer than a standard incandescent

TRUE. On average, according to the California Energy Commission (CEC), incandescents last up to 1,000 hours, while a CFL lasts up to 10,000.

Incandescent light bulbs use 75% more energy than CFLs

TRUE. Only 5% of the energy it takes to power an incandescent light bulb actually generates light.

Energy-efficient bulbs are too expensive

FALSE. Again, according to the CEC, the average incandescent costs \$.50, while the standard CFL costs \$3. However, in the life span of one \$3 CFL the consumer would have to buy 10 incandescents for a total of \$5. In addition, the consumer saves \$55 per bulb due to greater energy efficiency.